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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2015-24

Fomesafen

(publié aussi en français)

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new use on potatoes to the product label of Reflex Liquid Herbicide, containing technical grade fomesafen, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Reflex Liquid Herbicide, Pest Control Products Act Registration Number 24779.

The evaluation of this fomesafen application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for fomesafen is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRL can be found in Appendix I.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRL is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

The proposed MRL, to be added to the MRLs already established for fomesafen, is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Fomesafen

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food Commodity
Fomesafen	5-[2-chloro-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]-*N*-(methylsulfonyl)-2-nitrobenzamide	0.025	Potatoes

[1] ppm = parts per million

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The MRL proposed for fomesafen in Canada is the same as the corresponding American tolerance as listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, there are no Codex MRLs[1] listed for fomesafen in or on any commodity on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food webpage.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for fomesafen up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRL will be legally in effect as of the date that it is entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed MRL

Residue data from field trials conducted in the United States were submitted to support the domestic use of Reflex Liquid Herbicide on potatoes. Fomesafen was applied to potatoes at the proposed rate, and harvested according to label directions. In addition, a processing study in treated potatoes was reviewed which indicated that residues of fomesafen did not concentrate in the processed commodities of potato flakes, chips and wet peel.

Maximum Residue Limit

The recommendation for maximum residue limit (MRL) for fomesafen was based upon the submitted field trial data, and the guidance provided in the OECD MRL Calculator. Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to calculate the proposed MRL for potatoes.

Table A1 Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support MRL

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i/ha)[1]	Preharvest Interval (days)	Maximum Residues (ppm)	Minimum Residues (ppm)
Potatoes	Application directed to the soil (after planting but prior to emergence of potatoes) 266-295	70 -141	<0.025	<0.025

[1] g a.i./ha = grams of active ingredient per hectare

Following the review of all available data, a MRL as proposed in Table 1 is recommended to cover residues of fomesafen in potatoes. Residues of fomesafen in this commodity at the proposed MRL will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.